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FOOD FIGHT

LOCAL ACTIVISTS DEFEND UN ENVOY IN THE WAKE OF HIS HARSH CRITICISM OF CANADA'S FOOD INSECURITY AND THE EQUALLY HARSH REACTION FROM THE FEDERAL CONSERVATIVES PAGE 3

WINNIPEG metro®
Thursday, May 17, 2012
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Members of Winnipeg's chapter of Amnesty International protest pollution of the Niger Delta they allege is caused by Shell's oil operations in Nigeria, by building a living human sculpture in front of the Shell station at Portage Avenue and Maryland Street on Wednesday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Protesting pollution via public art

Eco issue. Amnesty International urges Shell to 'own up, pay up and clean up'

SHANE GIBSON
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The Winnipeg chapter of Amnesty International joined other chapters around the world Wednesday in protesting what they allege is the "widespread oil pollution" of the air, water and food around the Niger Delta by international oil giant Shell.

"Shell is extracting copious amounts of oil and not practising good business practices," claimed Lee Chitty, volunteer program co-ordinator with Amnesty International Winnipeg Chapter Group 19 at the noon-hour demonstration. "Any spills that happen, they're either denying them or refusing to clean up.

"People living off the land in Nigeria are suffering from health complications."

Volunteer members of Winnipeg's chapter built a living human sculpture in front of the Shell gas station at the corner of Portage Avenue and Maryland Street to bring attention to the issue, leading up to Shell's annual general meeting held in The Hague later this month.

"The United Nations has asked that Shell contribute $1 billion to a cleanup fund," said Chitty. "In 2011, Shell posted $30 billion in profits ... It would be just a fraction of what they made.

"I'd like to hope our group here, along with the voices of other Amnesty International members, can spread the word and eventually get heard by Shell's CEO and the other shareholders."

The local chapter has also collected postcards signed by Winnipeggers that outline the organization's concerns that will be mailed to the company later this week.

For more information or to join Amnesty International's social-media campaign, check out ai50.ca.

Follow Shane Gibson on Twitter @tsgibson

Quoted

"People who live in the rural areas are afraid to eat the food they normally consume from the land because it's become poisoned by the oil."

Lee Chitty, volunteer program co-ordinator with Amnesty International Winnipeg Chapter Group 19

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Listen to UN envoy, food and poverty activists urge

Backlash. Ottawa dismisses findings of special rapporteur on the right to food

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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Manitobans are rushing to the defence of Dr. Olivier De Schutter, the United Nations' special investigator on the right to food, in the wake of his report and harsh criticisms from Canadian ministers.

"I know that there is some backlash with him coming to a developed country," said Jasmine Tara, North End Food Security Network co-ordinator, "but the truth is that Canada is a developed country and there are people in the North End and all of Canada that have right-to-food issues."

Tara was a member of a panel of local food and poverty experts who met with De Schutter at Winnipeg Harvest last Friday.

"The fact that we're getting politicians to talk about it is great because the food policies (in Canada) have to change," she added.

The reaction from Government of Canada ministers, however, has been severe.

Even before De Schutter delivered his report, Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said it was "completely ridiculous."

De Schutter was also called "ill-informed" and "patronizing" by Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq.

Derek Nepinak, Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, said he has spent only a half an hour with Minister Aglukkaq in Ottawa and spent two full days accompanying De Schutter as he visited several Manitoba reserves, including Peguis First Nation, Sagkeeng First Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.

Nepinak said he is very disappointed by Aglukkaq's comments.

"If anyone is ill-informed, I would suggest looking at how many hours they're spending here," added Nepinak.

"Attempts to discredit the rapporteur in light of what our children are going through, it shows a real dark side to this government."

Dr. Olivier De Schutter, left, listens to members of the Wasagamack First Nation during his visit to Manitoba last week. ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

David Northcott, executive director of Winnipeg Harvest, said De Schutter is an internationally respected lawyer and human rights leader who is helping to "move the agenda forward" when it comes to issues of food and poverty.

"If we can make Canada better for people who are low-income, I'm willing to listen to anyone," he said. "Anything we can learn from the rapporteur is valuable.… I'm very much about making Canada better."

FOR MORE SEE PAGE 4

Follow Bernice Pontanilla on Twitter @MetroBee

Kidsfest honours its heroes for 30 years of success

From left, Al Simmons, Fred Penner and Jake Chenier perform for the Heroes of Kidsfest. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

To mark its 30th anniversary, the Winnipeg International Children's Festival (Kidsfest) honoured 25 "Heroes of Kidsfest" at The Forks on Wednesday.

With Premier Greg Selinger, Education Minister Nancy Allan and a group of young kids looking on, the festival honoured the people who have been working with the festival over its 30-year history, and entertainers who have performed at the annual event.

One of those performers is children's entertainer and local icon Fred Penner, who said there was a very important reason to start the festival three decades ago.

Donation campaign

$30

Kidsfest introduced its $30 for 30 campaign Monday. They hope to have people donate $30, with each dollar representing one year of the festival. To donate, go to kidsfest.ca

"When this whole thing began, we were just trying to figure out where this whole world was going," he said. "There was a huge demand for children's entertainment in the early '80s. We were boomers — the children were being born, and the parents required that there be positive energy for the children."

Penner performed a special song written for the children's festival along with fellow performers Al Simmons and Jake Chenier.

Premier Greg Selinger said the faces of Kidsfest have become icons in Winnipeg. "You look around the room and you see all the veterans," he said. "It has been a great story. It has been an excellent 30 years. There's a great tradition here. It's something we can all be proud of and share with our children and our grandchildren in the future."

The 30th annual Winnipeg International Children's Festival runs June 7-10 at The Forks. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Three suspects

Woman seriously sexually assaulted in North End

Police are looking for three male suspects after a woman was seriously sexually assaulted in the North End Tuesday night.

Officers were called to the 200-block of Dufferin Avenue around 10:35 p.m. after a 22-year-old female was assaulted near Powers Street and Selkirk Avenue.

The victim had been walking home in the area when three males approached from behind and seriously sexually assaulted her. She sustained injuries to her upper and lower body during the incident.

The first suspect is aboriginal in appearance, six-foot-tall, with a medium build and bushy eyebrows. The second suspect is aboriginal in appearance, six-foot-tall, with a large build and long dark hair worn in a braid. The third suspect is aboriginal in appearance, six-foot-tall, with a small build. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Home intruder

Man sought in armed sexual assault

Winnipeg police are searching for a suspect after a woman was awoken by a male intruder in her home early Wednesday morning and sexually assaulted.

Police say a male suspect entered the residence of a lone 21-year-old female in the 300-block of River Avenue around 2:30 a.m. After arming himself with a knife, the suspect woke the sleeping victim up and sexually assaulted her after a struggle.

The suspect is described as aboriginal in appearance, approximately 19 to 26 years of age, five-foot-six with a medium build. The suspect was last seen wearing a dark-coloured hoodie.

The Winnipeg Police Service Sex Crimes Unit is investigating and anyone with information is asked to call police at 986-6245 or Crime Stoppers at 786-TIPS. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Bill introduced

Codes of conduct for councillors?

The Manitoba government plans to make municipalities adopt codes of conduct that would include penalties for council members.

A bill now before the legislature would require all municipalities outside Winnipeg, which falls under a separate law, to set standards of behaviour for their elected officials. THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 NEWS

On the web

Biebs tops Forbes' celeb list

Justin Bieber's fame and money are making headlines once again (magazine covers, actually). Bieber's celebrity status and social-media power landed him a top-three spot on Forbes' 'most powerful celebrity' list. Read more at metronews.ca.

Age-old dinosaur up for grabs

This week, a 75-million-year-old cousin of Tyrannosaurus rex will be up for bid, and while it's hoped the valuable find will land in a museum, there's no guarantee a private collector won't snatch it up. Watch at metronews.ca

Mobile news

From Berlin to Antarctica, with not a penny in his pocket, Michael Wigge clocked more than 40,000 kilometres hitchhiking, bartering and working his way by ship, plane, car and foot around the globe. Scan the code for the story.

Montreal accident

Investigation underway

A man is in critical condition after being struck by dozens of bricks that came loose from a building in Montreal. He suffered head and pelvis injuries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal backlash

Canada ignoring hunger within its borders: Envoy

The UN's right-to-food envoy is raising the alarm about hunger and poor diets in Canada, but the federal government says he is wasting his breath.

Olivier De Schutter, a UN special rapporteur, has just wrapped up an 11-day investigation into food security in Canada.

He concluded Canada is flouting its international obligations by ignoring hunger within its own borders.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Green business

Canada lags behind: Report

The world is moving to a new business standard for being green, but Canada is not moving along with it — to our detriment, according to a new report.

More and more countries are demanding that their imports meet environmental standards, such as Europe's fuel-quality directive.

But the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy says there is little information in Canada for businesses to determine what kind of footprint their production is makes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Amber Kirwan

Murder arrests

Two people have been arrested in relation to the high-profile murder of Amber Kirwan, 19, from Nova Scotia. A press conference is scheduled for Thursday.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

Quebec tries to restore some order

Legislation.
Student protests continue as government drafts emergency plan to suspend school year

The Quebec government has announced plans to suspend the current academic session for striking students in an attempt to restore order in a province plagued by unrest.

Premier Jean Charest says he will table emergency legislation.

The legislation would temporarily halt the spring semester for the minority of faculties paralyzed by the strikes, push up the summer holidays, and reconvene students in August so they can complete their spring session before starting the fall one.

Charest would not address reports that the legislation will also impose stiff fines on picketers blocking access to classrooms.

He said the details would be revealed when the legislation is tabled.

"It's time for calm to be restored," Charest said at a podium, flanked by four university rectors or association officials.

"Access to education is a right. Nobody can pretend to defend access to education and then block the doors of a CEGEP or university."

"The current situation has lasted too long.... Quebecers have a right to live in security."

The conflict has lasted three months and caused considerable damage — with numerous injuries, countless traffic jams, a few smashed windows, subway evacuations, clashes with law enforcement, a heavy police bill, and of course disruptions to the academic calendar.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police violated civil rights: Summit report

Police pull back an activist during the G20 Summit in Toronto, June 26, 2010. Police violated civil rights, detained people illegally and used excessive force during the summit, concludes a report by Ontario's independent police watchdog. It also blasts the detention centre set up by Toronto police.

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Stafford's family looking for closure after trial

Rodney Stafford, father of slain Victoria Stafford, puts his hand on her gravestone in London, Ont. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria Stafford's father sat through the trial of his daughter's killer, often listening to details about the horror the eight-year-old suffered in the last hours of her life, and at the end of each day he just needed to see her smile.

Each day after the trial was over, Rodney Stafford and his family would drive out here to the cemetery and visit Tori's grave. A stone angel is perched atop the headstone, which is surrounded by flowers and pinwheels in her favourite colour — purple. Etched into the stone is a picture of Tori's smiling face as it was in the last photo taken of her, on school picture day, the day before she was murdered.

"Basically that's all we did through the trial was come out at the end of each day and just say, 'Hey we're this much further, we're this close,"' Stafford says, standing at the foot of his daughter's grave.

"It was definitely nice to come out and say, 'We got all the guilty's.' That smile right there is worth it."

Stafford says he has rushed out to the cemetery, sometimes at 2 or 3 a.m.

"I wanted to see my girl," he says.

Tori's family has had to grieve in stages since she vanished on April 8, 2009. For six weeks they were plagued with anxiety, then two people were charged in her murder. The family then had to come to terms with the fact that Tori was dead, but still there was no body to bury.

Another two months passed and her remains were found wrapped in garbage bags and buried under a pile of rocks in a farmer's field far from her Woodstock home.

The reality of life without Tori set in, then nine more months passed and Terri-Lynne McClintic pleaded guilty to first-degree murder, revealing the sickening details behind Tori's rape and murder.

Another chunk of time went by and the grief was once again set in motion as the partial lifting of a publication ban meant some of the details of McClintic's plea could be made public.

Tori's family had to wait more than a year after that for Michael Rafferty's trial and now it has finally come to an end. They sat through the trial for 10 weeks.

They cried tears of relief after he was found guilty Friday of first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping. They gave their victim impact statements Tuesday and saw him sentenced to life in prison.

There are no more stages now except for the rest of their lives without Tori.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Forever eight

Victoria's brother Daryn is growing up into a well-spoken young man, but Tori will forever be eight.

- Tori would have been 12 on July 15 this year, Rodney Stafford points out.
- "There's no reason why she shouldn't be able to turn any age and not be able to celebrate it with the rest of us," Stafford says.

Arson. Large family targeted in fatal attack

A father of 17 who lost six children in an arson attack on his central England home described Wednesday how he made a desperate attempt to rescue the siblings after the blaze broke out.

Mick Philpott broke down in tears as he recalled before reporters his thwarted efforts to reach the children, who were sleeping in their beds in upstairs rooms when the fire began to rage in the early hours of Friday morning.

Five of the siblings were killed immediately while a sixth died in hospital Sunday as a result of his injuries.

Police confirmed that the fire broke out after fuel was poured through the mail box on the front door of the house, and said they plan to question Philpott and the children's mother to determine why the home may have been targeted.

"What I can tell you is that the fire was started deliberately," said Derbyshire police's Assistant Chief Const. Steve Cotterill.

He said that it would be "important that we talk to Mr. and Mrs. Philpott about what happened," but insisted they were being helped by police officers as they grieve.

Maired Philpott, mother of six children who died in a house fire. RUI VIEIRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philpott had previously featured on British television in programs about his extraordinarily large family.

Speaking at a news conference, Philpott offered thanks to members of the community who had supported his family since the blaze — including an unnamed boy who tried to help him reach his children.

Jade, 10; John, 9; Jack, 7; Jessie, 6; and Jayden, 5, died at the scene from smoke inhalation. Their brother Duwayne, 13, died in the hospital on Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serb commander's genocide trial opens

The Hague. Ratko Mladic is also accused of crimes against humanity, war crimes

In this 1994 photo, Bosnian Serb army commander-in-chief Ratko Mladic, left, observes Bosnian government forces positions. EMIL VAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ratko Mladic was a shadow of the swaggering general who "held Sarajevo in the palm of his hand" during Bosnia's 1992-95 war as his long-awaited genocide trial opened Wednesday.

Mladic is accused of commanding Bosnian Serb troops who opened the war with a campaign of murder and persecution to drive Muslims and Croats out of territory they considered part of Serbia. His troops rained shells and snipers' bullets down on civilians in the 44-month-long siege of the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, and butchered 8,000 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica in July 1995, Europe's worst massacre since World War II.

Twenty years after the war that left 100,000 dead, Bosnia remains divided into two ministates — one for Serbs, the other shared by Bosnian Muslims and Croats.

Mladic fled into hiding and spent 15 years as a fugitive before international pressure led to his arrest last year. He is held in a one-man cell in a special international wing of a Dutch jail and receives food and medical care that would likely be the envy of many in Bosnia.

People who gathered in the Serb stronghold of Pale to watch the trial on television applauded as they saw the ex-general enter the courtroom.

"Mladic is our hero, it's sad that we see him there," said Milan Ivanovic, a 20-year-old law student.

The fact that he is on trial is a victory for international justice and hailed by observers as evidence that war crimes tribunals often get their indicted suspects, even if they have to wait years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sierra Leone

Taylor speaks at sentence hearing

Convicted war criminal and former Liberian President Charles Taylor said during his sentencing hearing Wednesday that he sympathizes with victims of the civil war in Sierra Leone he helped foment, and asked judges to render their sentence against him in a spirit of "reconciliation, not retribution."

He did not admit any wrongdoing, express remorse, or apologize for his actions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geneva

Syria ignores UN

The Syrian government snubbed a UN committee when it failed to appear Wednesday or report on any efforts to prevent the use of torture, the Committee Against Torture said.

Committee chair Claudio Grossman said the regime has carried out widespread killings, torture in hospitals and detention centres, torture of children, and sexual torture of male detainees. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Syrian president pins deadly attacks on foreign mercenaries

The blame game. With mounting opinion against him, Bashar Assad tells Russian state news that his government has detained foreign soldiers of fortune

A Lebanese Sunni sheik, centre left, helps a woman pass between Lebanese army soldiers during a patrol after clashes between Salafist and pro-Syrian regime groups, in the old market of the northern port city of Tripoli, Lebanon. HUSSEIN MALLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In his first interview since December, Syrian President Bashar Assad insisted his regime is fighting back against foreign mercenaries who want to overthrow him, not innocent Syrians aspiring for democracy in a yearlong uprising.

The interview with Russian TV showed Assad is still standing his ground, despite widespread international condemnation over his deadly crackdown on dissent.

"There are foreign mercenaries, some of them still alive," Assad said in an interview broadcast Wednesday on Russian state news channel Rossiya-24. "They are being detained and we are preparing to show them to the world."

Assad also cautioned against meddling in Syria, warning neighbouring nations that have served as transit points for contraband weapons being smuggled into the country that "if you sow chaos in Syria, you may be infected by it yourself."

He did not elaborate, but rebels and anti-regime activists say Syrian forces have mined many of the smuggling routes where weapons flow into Syria — mainly from neighbouring Turkey and Lebanon.

Assad, who inherited power from his father in 2000, still has a firm grip on power in Syria some 14 months into a revolt that has torn at the country's fabric and threatened to undermine stability in the Middle East.

The U.N. estimated in March that the violence has killed more than 9,000 people, and hundreds more have been killed since then as a revolt that began with mostly peaceful calls for reform transforms into an armed insurgency.

A group known as the Free Syrian Army is determined to bring down the regime by force of arms, targeting military checkpoints and other government sites.

A U.N. observer team with more than 200 members has done little to quell the bloodshed, and some even have been caught up in the violence themselves.

Assad, 46, denies that there is a popular will behind the uprising, saying foreign extremists and terrorists are driving the revolt.

Al-Qaida-style suicide bombings have become increasingly common in Syria, and Western officials say there is little doubt that Islamist extremists, some associated with the terror network, have made inroads in Syria as instability has spread.

The opposition describes Assad's claims as ludicrous, and says the regime's attacks on peaceful protesters led many to take up arms.

The decision to grant a rare interview to Russian TV speaks to Damascus' close ties with Moscow. Russia has been Syria's most powerful and loyal ally over the course of the uprising. Syria is the Kremlin's last ally in the Middle East, offering Moscow its only naval base outside the former Soviet Union and a stable market for the Russian arms industry.

Russia, along with China, has used its veto power to shield Damascus from U.N. sanctions.

Kofi Annan, the U.N. and Arab League envoy to Syria, is expected to visit Syria this month, Assad said. He added that he intends to complain to Annan about what he called one-sided criticism of Syria.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Responding to Assad

"There are no foreign mercenaries in Syria ... This is a revolution being made by the Syrian people."

Rima Fleihan, a Jordan-based Syrian activist, responding to President Assad's claims

Rio de Janeiro

Building's collapse exposes city's risk

More than 100 abandoned buildings in Rio de Janeiro are in such poor condition they are at risk of collapsing, the head of a regional engineering agency said Wednesday, a day after part of a two-story building crumbled in the Olympic city's colonial downtown.

No one was injured in Tuesday's incident, but it was a chilling reminder of the January collapse of three other downtown buildings, which left 17 people dead and five missing and raised questions about Rio's readiness to host the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympics.

Agostinho Guerreiro, president of Crea, a public entity representing members of the engineering profession, urged authorities here to act before other buildings tumble down. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut

Settlement reached in cemetery lawsuit

A Connecticut woman has agreed to settle her lawsuit against her Jewish congregation over the burial of a non-Jewish black woman in the synagogue's cemetery.

Maria Balaban's attorney said he and a lawyer for Congregation Ahavath Achim in Colchester have reached a tentative agreement. The terms were not disclosed.

Balaban sued over the burial of Juliet Steer in 2010, saying the synagogue broke its own rules against the burial of non-Jews at the cemetery.

Others said Steer was buried in a section reserved for non-Jews. Balaban wanted Steer's body exhumed and relocated, but later dropped that request.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York. Police challenged on illegal searches

Finding New York City's attitude "deeply troubling," a judge granted class-action status Wednesday to a lawsuit that accuses police of discriminating against blacks and Hispanics with stops and searches without cause.

U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin ruled that there was "overwhelming evidence" that the practice has led to thousands of illegal police stops.

The lawsuit alleges that the police department purposefully targeted black and Hispanic neighbourhoods and said officers are pressured to meet quotas as part of the program and are punished if they don't.

The Police Department has said it made 203,500 street stops during the first three months of 2012, up from 183,326 in the first three months of 2011.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly declined to comment.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg defended the program, saying it had helped the city prevent thousands of deaths.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Racial profiling?

"We respectfully disagree with the decision and are reviewing our legal options."

Lawyers representing the City of New York responding to U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin's ruling on lawsuit against the NYPD concerning illegal searches.

Security officers stand next to a damaged bus at the scene of a bomb attack in Bogota. RICARDO MAZALAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bogota. Bombing suspect sought

Colombian investigators on Wednesday were seeking a man between 17 and 20 years old who they say could be the bomber who killed two bodyguards of a conservative former interior minister and injured 39 people in a busy commercial district of Bogota.

Video from several surveillance cameras showed the man, wearing a baseball cap and a wig with glass beads, approach the armoured SUV of former Interior Minister Fernando Londono and then flee, getting on the back of a motorcycle driven by another man.

The video shown by RCN TV does not show the man actually place the bomb, presumed to have used magnets for attachment, on the door of Londono's vehicle. Officials said it was detonated by remote control.

A police report seen by The Associated Press says the man was bleeding from one of his arms when a taxi driver picked him up 10 blocks from the scene of Tuesday's attack,

It says the man told the cabbie, "Get me out of here," but the driver refused because of the blood.

The government has not ascribed blame for the bombing, although Colombia's main leftist rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, has committed similiar bombings in the past.

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Assumed name

Airport security identity crisis

Police believe a New Jersey airport security supervisor purchased a birth certificate and Social Security number 20 years ago from a man who was later murdered. Police say that's how Bimbo Olumuyiwa Oyewole assumed the name of Jerry Thomas. The 55-year-old Nigerian faces an identity theft charge and deportation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ill-gotten booty

'Madam' charged in butt-shot scam

A Philadelphia woman who calls herself the "Black Madam" was ordered Wednesday to stand trial on allegations she administered illegal buttock injections, procedures that authorities say caused serious medical problems in at least one case. Padge Windslowe, 42, faces charges of aggravated assault and deceptive practices related to a so-called pumping party in Philadelphia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Last of the diehards

A paint-spattered supporter of the Frankfurt Occupy Camp is taken away by police officers Wednesday as police clear the tent-camp of about 300 Occupy protesters from near the European Central Bank in Frankfurt, Germany. Police spokesman Manfred Vonhausen said the protesters have been told they need to leave after a court upheld a ruling the camp was a threat to public safety.

MICHAEL PROBST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miss Fiji fiasco

Popular beauty queen replaced. Pageant winner says she was lied to; judge says contest was a 'sham'

Torika Watters, 16, won the Miss World Fiji pageant, but was replaced after questions about her ethnicity and age began to surface. Organizers say she stepped down voluntarily. SHIRI RAM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

First came complaints that the winner of the Miss World Fiji pageant looked too Western to represent her country. Then her age came under scrutiny. And now, with the 16-year-old's crown lost, one of the judges says the contest was rigged from the start.

The pageant has turned into a fiasco in this South Pacific nation of 900,000. The pageant's director is avoiding questions as fans of the beauty queen, Torika Watters, flock online to support her.

Watters was crowned Miss World Fiji last month by an international panel of judges led by New Zealand supermodel Rachel Hunter, winning the opportunity to represent the country at the world competition in China in August.

Soon after, however, dozens of people posted messages on the Miss World Fiji Facebook page questioning whether Watters represented Fijian beauty or was simply a mirror of Western ideals.

Two weeks after she won, Watters wrote on her Facebook page, pageant director Andhy Blake told her she couldn't compete for Miss World because she is too young. The competition requires contestants be at least 17, but Watters said Blake previously assured her "it was fine" because he had received prior approval for her entry from international organizers.

Organizers of the Fijian event over the weekend announced a new winner: Koini Vakaloloma, 24.

A message on the Miss World Fiji Facebook page Tuesday said that Watters had voluntarily stepped down and that reports connecting the decision with racism or her age were "untrue."

One of the judges, Fijian fashion designer Hupfeld Hoerder, said Wednesday that the judging was a sham.

He said there was no note-taking or judging criteria during the competition and that Blake had pressured the judges to name Watters the winner. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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She's one in 1.2 billion

A young woman in Kolkata gets her retina scanned Wednesday as she enrols in Aadhar, India's new identification project. The giant undertaking aims to give everyone an identity record and number, and involves recording retina scans, fingerprints and photographs of all 1.2 billion Indians. BIKAS DAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHO sees major rise in 'diseases of affluence'

Blood pressure, glucose levels, obseity rising. Diet, tobacco, inactivity affecting developing nations' health stats

A quarter of those 25 or older now have high blood pressure worldwide, and almost one in 10 has worrying levels of glucose in their blood.

The World Health Organization's tally of global health statistics for the first time includes a look at blood pressure and glucose levels, two of the risk factors for diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Among the findings released Wednesday were that 29.2 per cent of men and 24.8 per cent of women have high blood pressure, while 9.8 per cent of men and 9.2 per cent of women have raised fasting blood glucose levels.

Officials in charge of compiling the yearly snapshot of statistics from 194 nations for the UN health agency say rich nations have exported some of their disease risk factors to the developing world.

Dr. Ties Boerma, director of WHO's health statistics, said tobacco use, unhealthy diets and physical inactivity "are no longer diseases of just affluent countries."

Populations that are living longer are also a factor.

"Globalization, urbanization and aging populations are spreading around the world, so four out of five deaths due to the so-called diseases of affluence are in low- and middle-income countries," Boerma said. "It's also being a victim of your own success."

Colin Mathers, who coordinates WHO blood pressure statistics, says obesity is "rising everywhere" even as many children lack enough to eat.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heart unhealthy

The worldwide tally noted:

- **Hearts working harder.** Globally, 29.2 per cent of men and 24.8 per cent of women have high blood pressure.
- **Higher blood sugar.** Similarly, 9.8 per cent of men and 9.2 per cent of women have raised glucose levels.

Blasted brains. Military injuries found to be like repeated blows to the head

Researchers studying the brains of soldiers exposed to blast injuries have found evidence of a degenerative disease also detected in athletes who have suffered repeated blows to the head, raising a new worry for thousands of combat veterans.

Scientists from the United States and England say brain tissue in four American military members showed signs of chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a progressive disease normally linked to repetitive concussions.

The condition has been identified in more than a dozen professional football players who have died after suffering multiple concussions. In some cases, they developed memory loss, irritability, dementia and suicidal thoughts before they died.

Patric Stanton, a cell biologist at the New York Medical College, said the team of scientists found telltale signs of the disease in veterans exposed to even just one blast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eating healthy

Junk food is not cheaper: USDA

Is it really more expensive to eat healthy? A U.S. Agriculture Department study released Wednesday found that most fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods cost less than foods high in fat, sugar and salt when compared by portion.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rights investigation

Brazil swears in truth commission

Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Wednesday swore in seven members of a truth commission to investigate human rights abuses committed during the nation's long military dictatorship. Rousseff spent three years in prison during the dictatorship.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indefinite detentions

U.S. terrorism law challenged

A bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers is challenging a new law that allows the indefinite detention without trial of suspected terrorists. A coalition of Democrats, libertarians and tea party conservatives on Wednesday unveiled an amendment.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Skechers to pay $40M to settle charges

False advertising. FTC claims shoe company falsely represented clinical studies

Skechers USA Inc. will pay $40 million to settle charges by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission that the footwear company made unfounded claims that its Shape-ups shoes would help people lose weight and strengthen their butt, leg and stomach muscles.

Wednesday's settlement also involves the company's Resistance Runner, Toners, and Tone-ups shoes and claims of deceptive advertising for those shoes as well.

Consumers who bought the shoes would be eligible for refunds, though it's not clear how much money they'll get,

The FTC says that will depend on how many claims are received in the eight-month filing period.

The settlement is related to a broader agreement also announced Wednesday that resolves a multi-state investigation led by the attorneys general from Tennessee and Ohio and involving more than 40 states.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wallet workout

Skechers billed its Shape-ups as a fitness tool designed to promote weight loss and tone muscles with the shoe's curved "rocker" or rolling bottom — saying it provides natural instability and causes the consumer to "use more energy with every step."

- Ads for the Resistance Runner shoes claimed people who wear them could increase "muscle activation" by up to 85 per cent for posture-related muscles and 71 per cent for one of the muscles in the buttocks, said the FTC.

Facebook stock flying high

A taxi passes the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York's Times Square on Wednesday. Facebook says 25 per cent more shares will be sold as investors clamour for a piece of the year's hottest stock offering on Nasdaq, Friday. The entire increase comes from insiders and early investors, so the company won't benefit from the additional sales. Facebook's stock is expected to begin trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the ticker symbol "FB." RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India

Rupee hits all-time low

The Indian rupee hit an all-time low against the U.S. dollar Wednesday. The rupee hit 54.44 against the dollar, breaching its prior low of 54.39 set Dec. 15, according to FactSet data. The slide helped send the benchmark Sensex index down 1.8 per cent Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google

Modified search engine in the works

Google introduce a new web search tool Wednesday which draws from a Google-built database of more than 500 million people, places and commonly requested things to provide a summary of vital information alongside the main search results.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 98.75¢ (-0.57¢)

Natural gas: $2.618 US (+11.8¢)
Dow Jones: 12,598.55 (-33.45)

TSX 11,326.08 (-16.97)

OIL $92.81 US (-$1.17)

GOLD $1,536.60 US (-$20.50)

Inquiry. Politicians, press became too close: Former U.K. minister

Britain's politicians and its powerful media were uncomfortably close while Tony Blair ran the country, a former U.K. minister said Wednesday.

Jack Straw, who held several key posts, told an official inquiry into media ethics that journalists and Blair's Labour Party had forged "very, very close, sometimes incestuous" ties while Blair strived for power, and that those links endured when he became prime minister in 1997.

Blair served as Britain's chief for a decade — handing over to his successor Gordon Brown in 2007. Current British Prime Minister David Cameron has already acknowledged he developed ties to the media that were "too close" while he was opposition chief.

Straw, who served as foreign secretary, home secretary and justice secretary, said he believed that newspaper baron Rupert Murdoch, whose holdings extend to television and film, took advantage of his relationships with lawmakers to consolidate his media interests.

Straw was testifying before Lord Justice Brian Leveson, who is investigating whether British politicians and newspaper proprietors traded favours — part of a wide-ranging inquiry into media ethics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The perception I got is that Mr. Murdoch is enjoying the fact that he has been willing to play with political leaders."

Jack Straw, former foreign minister

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HIS MUSIC AT WORK

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

So, I just heard a new Tragically Hip song playing on TV and ran into the living room like there was a fire.

Actually, that's not true. If there had been a fire, I would have just panicked in its general direction, or maybe called my parents for one of my "How do I do cook/clean/kill this?" calls, to ask if they had any quick household tips to avoid smoke inhalation.

But when I heard lead singer Gord Downie's voice, I leapt into action, barrel-rolling into the room as if lives were at stake, and grabbed both sides of the TV screen ready to give it mouth-to-mouth if necessary.

I admit I may have a problem.

I will go long periods of time as a normal person, then a new Tragically Hip album comes out and I become like those girls who are always fainting at the sight of Justin Bieber's hair. As a 35-year-old professional with some vestiges of dignity, I keep it cool, but inside my heart is screaming, "OMG sooo exiteeed justin hold me retweet me impregnate me!!!" Or the emotional equivalent.

So Hard Done By

As a 35-year-old professional with some vestiges of dignity, I keep it cool, but inside my heart is screaming, "OMG sooo exiteeed justin hold me retweet me impregnate me!!!"

I have also walked past Gord's house because I wanted to see what it looked like (it looked like a house).

The Hip are my band. I own them. No doubt you own a band, too — probably acquired between the ages of 17 and 21, ample time being needed to get Billy Joel/MC Hammer/Bieber cleansed from your system. (If you like those performers, remember that music is a completely subjective endeavour that you still somehow got wrong.)

Occasionally, you share your band at a concert or a card game, but more often than not they're just yours. You criticize your band sometimes, because you love it, but if anyone else criticizes it, there's hell to pay.

Owning a good band keeps you young. Either it breaks up and your memories of it become frozen at that "final" age, or they stay together and you feel like time isn't passing at all.

Take the Hip: More time separates today from New Orleans is Sinking than separated New Orleans is Sinking from Let it Be. But when I listen to the Hip, it's hard to distinguish from how I felt when I was 17 or 27. It's not nostalgia, exactly — more like timelessness. That's a corny thing to say, I know, but my ownership of the Hip has been a long time running.

Now if you'll excuse me, I need to call my parents. I want to ask them the best way to clean the TV before I put my lips on it.

Our columnist's extreme love of the Tragically Hip has been a long time running. KEVIN FRAYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Commuting by centipede

RICHARD VAN DER KLAAUW/METRO HOLLAND

Future transport

'Superbus' gets the green light

In a ceremony in Valkenburg, Netherlands, Holland's Minister of Infrastructure and Environment Melanie Schultz van Haegen on Tuesday attached registration plates to the Superbus, a Batmobile-style public transit vehicle that could whisk morning commuters off to work at super-fast speeds in the near future.

METRO HOLLAND

Designer's view

"You can reach the Superbus by telephone or via an app on your smartphone. The bus brings you everywhere you want to go."

Superbus designer and former Dutch astronaut Wubbo Ockels
After getting the green light from the Dutch government as a road-worthy vehicle, the Superbus will now undergo a further two years of development and testing of the prototype.

Plans for development

Need for speed

A ride with the Superbus will not cost you more than a second-class train ticket. The first route, which still has to be built, will connect the cities Heereveen and Groningen. When the route will be ready is still unclear. All Dutch highways will have to add an extra high-speed lane on which the bus can travel up to 210 kilometres per hour.

METRO HOLLAND

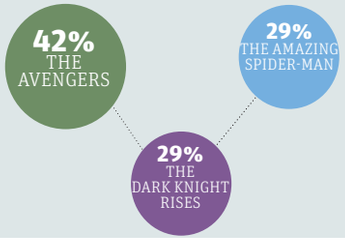
Facts and figures

- **Length.** 15 metres (twice the length of an adult killer whale).
- **Weight.** 9,500 kilograms fully loaded (heavier than a Tyrannosaurus rex).
- **Power source.** Electric motors powered by lithium-polymer battery pack and regenerative braking.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Which superhero movie tops your must-see list for the summer?



Twitter

@Kawaii_Ninjaa:
Radio news: There are deer running down a street. We don't know what street, but there are deer running down a street. #WinnipegProblems

@wpglovehate:
If I could get my hands on Sam Katz's head, I would give him a 5-minute noogie.

@zenbecca:
I'm at Michaels and I need a craft-ervention. Everything is so pretty... want... need... must... have...

@RavWpg:
If these two girls beside me use the word 'like' one more time, I'm probably gonna like go kung-fu on them.

@Canucklehead_ca:
Forgive me if i recently said this about Greaster (Greek Easter), but I think Victoria Day might be my favourite Alcoholiday. Cheers!

metro

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2

SCENE

Bio adaptation

Sorkin to focus on Apple after Facebook film

Aaron Sorkin is going from Facebook to Apple. Sony Pictures officials say the Oscar-winning writer will write a screenplay based on the Steve Jobs biography. Sony Pictures co-chairman Amy Pascal says Sorkin will make the film about the late Apple founder "everything that Jobs himself was: Captivating, entertaining and polarizing."
Sorkin won the adapted screenplay Academy Award for 2010's The Social Network. The 50-year-old writer was nominated in the same category for 2011's Moneyball.
His other credits include Charlie Wilson's War and A Few Good Men. He also created TV's The West Wing. Actor Ashton Kutcher is set to play Jobs in a separate project.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Finale of Desperate Housewives brings 11 million viewers to ABC on Sunday

Juno Award-winning noise-rock band KEN mode plays tonight at the Lo Pub. CURRAN FARIS

'We don't fit anywhere'

KEN mode.
Thunderous three-piece snags a Juno for metal, but their music can't be pigeonholed

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jared Story
winnipeg@metronews.ca

At the 2012 Juno Awards, Winnipeg noise rock band KEN mode won the inaugural Metal/Hard Music Album prize for its 2011 disc Venerable.

The thunderous three-piece — comprised of brothers Jesse (guitar/vocals) and Shane Matthewson (drums) and bassist Andrew LaCour — beat out Fuck the Facts, Cauldron, Devin Townsend and Toronto metal vets Anvil to take the honour.

"I went to politely introduce myself and he totally snubbed me," Jesse Matthewson says of Anvil drummer Robb Reiner.

"I said, 'Hi, I'm Jesse from KEN mode and we're part of the metal category too' and he went, 'What?' so I redid my introduction and said 'Hi, I'm Jesse from KEN mode and apparently we're your competition this year,' to which he said, 'I wasn't aware we had any competition,' and turned his back on me."

That's not the only case of metal-on-metal malevolence towards KEN mode. Matthewson says Devin Townsend's fans "showered" them in hatred online after the band's Juno win. Yes, despite titling its album Venerable, KEN mode doesn't always get its due respect.

"Our categorization is such a strange thing," Matthewson says.

"When we won this thing, people were bitching, 'How come a noise-rock band won best heavy metal?' We end up falling into these arbitrary categories whenever it becomes convenient for people to pigeonhole us, because most of the time we're too metal or hardcore for noise rock and we're too noise rock for metal or hardcore. We don't fit anywhere."

It's true — when they're not rocking out, the brothers Matthewson work in the very non-metal field of accounting and Shane's haircut is anything but heavy metal.

"It's funny seeing people's reactions when we play live," Matthewson says. "I know at our JunoFest show there were people who checked it out just because we were freshly crowned Juno winners. Friends of mine who were in the crowd said as soon as the first song started and my saliva started to fly, those people got up and walked out."

KEN mode is currently halfway through writing a "mean and nasty" new album. In the meantime, check 'em out tonight at the Lo Pub.

Quoted

"It's funny seeing people's reactions when we play live."
Jesse Matthewson, on curious showgoers who checked out their JunoFest performance.

Details:

KEN mode play tonight at the Lo Pub. Tickets are $10 at Music Trader, Into the Music and ticketworkshop.com or $12 at the door. Showtime is 9.m.

Will SNL's constant stream of talent ever run dry?

SNL cast member Kristen Wiig has joined the long list of success stories from the legendary comedy show. ERIC REICHBAUM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

"How can Saturday Night Live possibly replace (fill in the blank)?" How many times have we asked ourselves that question across nearly four decades?

"Impossible!," said some in 2006 when Tina Fey, Chris Parnell, Horatio Sanz and Rachel Dratch headed for the door, only to be followed two years later by her Weekend Update co-host Amy Poehler.

But in their wake grew one of the most versatile, multi-threat casts in SNL history, one that firmly established its own SNL era. Kristen Wiig, Andy Samberg, Bill Hader and Jason Sudeikis all became cast members in the 2005-2006 season, joining a group that already had Seth Meyers and Fred Armisen.

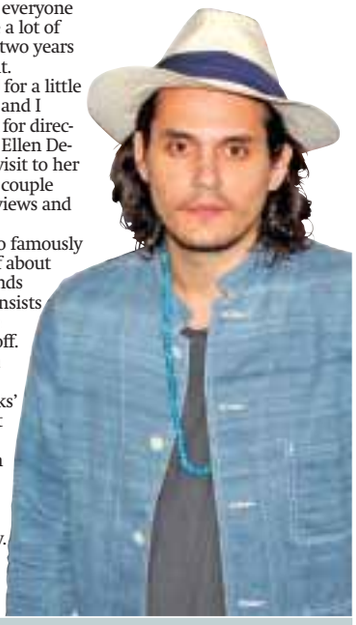
At the time, SNL creator and executive producer Lorne Michaels pronounced them "the wave of the future" and Fey likened herself to a senior seeing "exciting freshmen" arrive. But as this latest season of the sketch institution comes to a close this Saturday night (with host Mick Jagger and musical guests Arcade Fire and the Foo Fighters), there's a growing sense that another SNL class is nearing graduation.

Wiig, Samberg and Sudeikis have been reported to be leaving, though Michaels has said any decision will wait until the summer. With a U.S. presidential election looming, an immediate exodus of all three is unlikely. Sudeikis plays both Republican candidate Mitt Romney and Vice-President Joe Biden, and SNL has previously taken an all-hands-on-deck approach to U.S. election shows.

Yes, sometimes it's struggled for top-grade material over the years, which is understandable due to how long it has run, but when SNL is firing on all cylinders, it can be as good as it's ever been. This year, those moments have come when an alum has hosted: Maya Rudolph in February and Jimmy Fallon for the Christmas show.

Such occasions usually bring back other former cast members as well. If anything, the SNL universe has grown larger — making a kind of constant revolving door for SNL cast members, past and present. In that way, SNL has more in common with the mafia than any other TV show: No one ever really leaves. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mayer wisens up



John Mayer wants everyone to know he's done a lot of growing up in his two years out of the spotlight.

"I lost my head for a little while. I lost touch and I didn't want to ask for directions," Mayer tells Ellen DeGeneres during a visit to her talk show. "I did a couple really dumb interviews and it woke me up."

The singer, who famously shot his mouth off about famous ex-girlfriends and racial issues, insists he's calmed in the intervening time off. "I think back then I would have said, 'Give me two weeks' or like, 'Let me get out and do Ellen and let me explain myself," Mayer says.

"It was like, 'No, idiot. Go away. Be 33 and 34 instead of 28 for the fourth year.'"

Gaga banned from performing in Jakarta

Lady Gaga

Lady Gaga has been denied a permit to perform in the city of Jakarta, according to E! News.

The singer was reportedly banned from Indonesia all together after an outpouring of criticism from Islamic activists, but a spokesperson for the Indonesian national police would only confirm that she would not be allowed to go ahead with her scheduled show on June 3. Officials pulled the permit out of fear that they would not be able to control protesters at the event. Lady Gaga's rep has yet to comment.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Forgive us, Miley Cyrus

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

It seems we owe Miley Cyrus an apology. While we were rooting against her as rumours circled that she might land a spot at the X Factor judges table, she was busy being an adult with a real life and rescuing dogs.

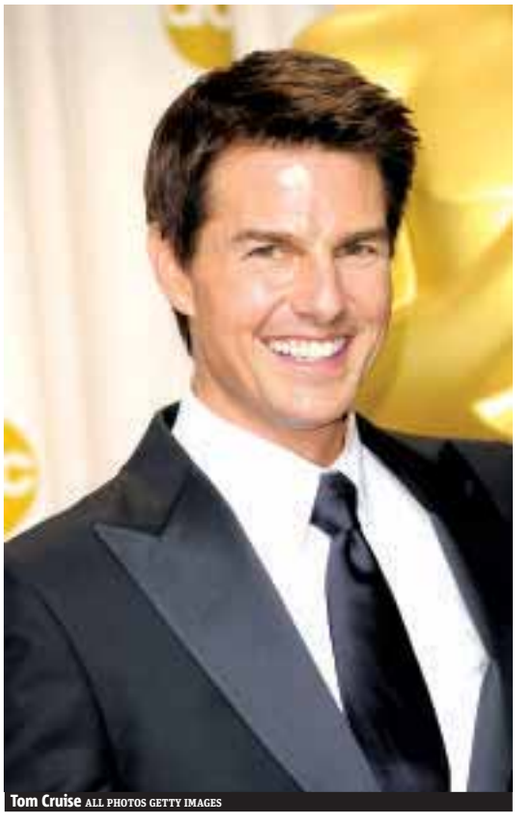
Earlier this month, the starlet brought home Happy, a beagle mix who was left outside a Walmart, and over the weekend she added a fifth rescue pup, Mary Jane, to her collection.

"Meet the newest addition to our family Mary Jane," Cyrus tweeted. "I love rescuing."

And apparently, Cyrus' dogs live — and sleep — pretty comfortably.

"As all my dogs jumped on my face the first words out of my mouth this morning ... 'I am living my dream life,'" she tweeted later.

Miley, we have to admit, we seriously underestimated your idea of a dream life with Mary Jane. Consider this your summer get-out-of-the-gossip-column-free pass — and tell your girl Lindsay about our limited-time deal.



Tom Cruise ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Tom's OK with the haters

Tom Cruise has gotten over his couch-jumping period, but he's not mad at other people for dwelling on his past moments of erratic behaviour.

"Do I make mistakes? Yeah. I don't care who you are, life has challenges," Cruise tells Playboy magazine. "I remember as a kid I wanted an adventurous life, and I've gotten it. So if someone judges me harshly, it's OK. I don't even judge them harshly for doing it."

Lawsuits not over for Travolta

Although the first man to accuse John Travolta of sexual battery dropped his lawsuit, he's since hired another attorney, and it's none other than the high-profile civil rights lawyer Gloria Allred.

"I represent John Doe No. 1. Mr. Doe's lawsuit was dismissed without prejudice which means that he is still legally entitled to file another lawsuit against John Travolta if he chooses. We are in the process of conferring with him regarding the next steps which he may wish to take," Allred said in a statement.

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Six summer updates for your beauty cabinet

We talk to a makeup artist and facialist to discover the skin and makeup products you'll need to get you through months of pore-clogging summer heat

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
life@metronews.ca

The facialist: Una Brennan

Una Brennan's famous clients include the always luminous Sienna Miller

SkinCeuticals CE Ferulic, $146, skinceuticals.co.uk
"This is such a powerful anti-oxidant serum. Not only does it protect and repair the skin from external aggressors, it helps stimulate collagen for more youthful looking skin. I never go a day without it and believe everyone should use a topical vitamin C antioxidant in this form."

Clarisonic, Opal Sonic Infusion, $185, clarisonic.com
"This is fantastic for kick-starting under eye lymph drainage, which is a massive bonus for those who suffer from puffy eyes or dark circles. It also helps your eye cream penetrate the skin more easily. Perfect after a late night out."

Epicuren Acidophilus Probiotic Facial Cream, $22, epicuren.com
"Perfect for even the most sensitive skin. My favorite moisturizer for calming redness and inhibiting breakouts, this cream will make your skin clear and glowing."

The makeup artist: Francesca Tolot

Tolot has worked on the perma-flawless Beyoncé Knowles.

Chanel, Illusion d'Ombre Eyeshadow in Illusoire, $36, chanel.com
"Even in balmy temperatures, this eyeshadow won't crease and cake up on the eyelids or cause uncomfortable powdery heaviness.

The taupe shade is a universal colour that adds depth to the look in your eyes."

NARS Blush Bronzer Trio in Laguna, Albatross and Orgasm, $63, narscosmetics.com
"When it's hot and humid your face doesn't need to be smothered in makeup. Unless you have bad skin, avoid heavy foundation in the summer. This palette is the perfect alternative to foundation if you want extra shimmer."

Dior Vernis in Nirvana, $23, dior.com
"Summertime means exposed hands and toes, so you need to get the color right. I love darker, vibrant shades (even in summer!) as they look beautiful on anyone but for something a bit more out there, I love the turquoise Dior Vernis Nirvana. It's a colour that requires commitment, but it's worth the risk."

3 LIFE

Style in brief

Simpson to launch maternity line

Brand-new mother Jessica Simpson is launching a line of clothing for moms-to-be. With it all still fresh in her mind, the 31-year-old singer-actress, who gave birth to daughter Maxwell Drew Johnson on May 1, announced Monday a partnership between Camuto Group, the master licensee behind her label, and retailer Destination Maternity. The clothes, with a hint of a 1970s vibe, will be in stores in the fall.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Combatting chlorine: Wet hair, damp skin can leave swimmers feeling dry

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The poster child of style

Starting an art collection? Poster art has moved far beyond the teenager's bedroom and into the realm of high design

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Wanting to start curating your own art collection at home? An inexpensive and easy way to start is with vintage (and new) posters.

Vintage posters are highly collectable and can be found at yard sales, through online dealers and vintage book shops, whereas new posters are available at a multitude of online retailers and in store.

"Vintage posters are a great way for someone to foray into the collector's world; posters can easily be sent around the world in shipping tubes and there are a multitude of graphics to choose from," says Troy Seidman of Caviar20.com, a 20th century art and design online boutique.

What's hot: For the past few years, people have gravitated toward collecting vintage posters with themes of wine, spirits and food. With the anticipated Olympics this summer, many collectors are focusing on travel and sport-related posters. Always popular poster themes are foreign language, superheroes and classic movie posters.

How to buy: A vintage poster can cost $50 to $1,000 depending on condition, age and availability whereas a new poster can cost $5 to $200, depending on the size, printing process and paper stock.

Most posters ordered online are shipped in a protective cardboard tube, with the framing left to the buyer.

When shopping for a vintage poster, it's best to let the seller know what themes you are interested in buying so they can put together a tightly curated collection of options for you to choose from; that way you won't become overwhelmed with all the images and themes available.

World's Fair wall poster (new), hand-printed on museum-quality paper, unframed, 24-x-36 inches, $110 BEDBATHANDBEYOND.CA

Sources: For 20th-century collectable posters, check out caviar20.com; they've got a great selection of cultural and modern art posters. For new posters go to society6.com — there you'll find a great selection of superhero themes that can be ordered in a variety of sizes.

Most large home decor retailers like Bed Bath & Beyond have cashed in on poster art as a popular decor element and sell their favourites already framed. Keep in mind that these posters may look vintage but you'll have to wait a long time before they gain collectable status.

If buying posters at auction or yard sales, make sure to do a good inspection for fading, fold lines, rips and tape marks, as any of these will decrease the collectable value.

Any poster with an original artist signature is a must-buy, no matter what the condition.

A collectable poster can be inspiration for decorating an entire room. CONTRIBUTED

Frame it

As most posters are sold unframed, it'll be up to you to protect your new art by framing it appropriately.

Think simple; people tend to over-frame posters with large, very ornate frames as if they were 200-year-old Italian paintings. This takes away from the poster itself and most often looks out of place. A clean-lined dark stained or black wood frame usually does the best job. For large posters, ask about plexi-plastic front rather than glass; although it scratches easier than glass, plexi is lightweight and shatter-proof.

Shown is the First Avenger (new), gallery-quality giclee print on cotton paper, 20-x-26 inches with walnut frame $68 SOCIETY6.COM

From landscaping loser to garden guru

DIY ideas. It's all about curb appeal —turn your wild yard into an outdoor showcase you can be proud of

It's officially time to begin planting and bringing your outdoor space back to life. Licensed contractor Jason Cameron saves homeowners from the embarrassment of having the worst lawn on the block in Desperate Landscapes.

Make sure neighbours don't call you out on your approach to lawn care (or lack thereof) by using some of Jason's advice when starting your garden landscaping this year.

Put together a plan

Planning your outdoor space can save you from feeling overwhelmed at the garden store where there are flowers, shrubs and trees aplenty. Be aware of the amount of sun exposure, weather habits, and type of soil in your yard so that you arrive at the garden store prepared. Garden store experts will be more than happy to offer advice about what plants will flourish in your yard.

Think about the placement of walkways and seating areas and be sure to incorporate a plan for lighting, as well-placed lights create a beautiful evening atmosphere and can highlight new foliage.

Lay the groundwork

It is very important to prepare soil before planting. Rent a ground tiller from a home improvement store if you don't already own one and use it to break up existing soil. Once completed, add a new layer of composite soil and then return to the tiller to mix the two soils together — the soil is now ready for planting.

If you've decided to create some new walkways, lay landscaper's fabric over these new areas to prevent weed growth and use metal staples to secure it to the ground. Place pathway rocks over top of the fabric and spread them around using a shovel until there is about a two-inch depth.

Planting time

Now that the ground is ready, it's time to highlight walkways and seating areas with vegetation. Place shrubs and flowers in planter boxes (if using) before actually planting to explore different formations and colour combinations. For variety, surround tall plants with cascading plants such as vines.

Once you have decided on their locations, dig appropriate-sized holes for each plant. Carefully remove plants from their pots, loosen their roots, place them in the hole and surround with dirt to straighten and secure.

Loosely spread some cedar mulch on any exposed soil around the plants as this will help the soil retain moisture and add nutrients to help them grow. The same approach can be used whether using planter boxes or planting directly in the ground.

DESPERATE LANDSCAPES AIRS WEEKNIGHTS AT 7:30 P.M. ET/4:30 P.M. PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA.

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Vertical garden ideal for small city spaces

Summer project. A tall pallet garden makes the most of tiny city backyards — here's how to get yours started

RACHEL VIGODA
life@metronews.ca

Outdoor space is hard to come by in a city, but you don't need a sprawling lawn to spruce up your home with plants and flowers. Instead of gardening out, garden up.

With vertical gardening, you plant on a wooden pallet or metal panel, then attach it to a wall or prop it up against a deck or balcony railing.

"If you can wake up in the morning and look out at what was previously a brick wall and is now full of green living plants, it changes your whole outlook on the day," says Curt Alexander, owner of Urban Jungle, a vertical landscaping company and garden centre in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The trick, he says, is to arrange the plants so they all get enough light, which means making sure bigger ones don't throw a shadow on the little guys.

"Most types of plants, flowers, veggies and herbs will work," adds David Prendergast of Greensgrow, an urban farm in Pennsylvania.

Here's how to make your own pallet vertical garden:

1. Get a pallet. "You can dumpster-dive, find one on the street, go to any [store]," says Prendergast. "They're readily available."

Chemically-treated pallets, which are painted in colours, shouldn't be used for vegetables.

2. Attach landscape fabric to the back of the pallet by stapling it all along the edges, placing the staples an inch or two apart.

3. Snake a soaker hose (made of permeable rubber, so water will seep through and get distributed evenly) along the back of the pallet.

4. Lay the pallet down and fill the spaces with soil, two-thirds of the way full.

5. Plant your plants. About 32 plants should fill the pallet.

6. Leave the pallet flat for two weeks to give the plants time to "get established," Prendergast says.

Make sure it's near where you want it to wind up, because it will be heavy.

7. Stand it up and attach it to a wall or balcony railing.

Tip: Keep the bugs at bay

Incorporate mountain mint and marigolds into your pallet. Mountain mint wards off mosquitoes, and the scent of marigolds deters other bugs.

8. Enjoy your new green wall.

Sick of looking at concrete? Add a little green to your day. CONTRIBUTED

Flowers, veggies and herbs are ideal for vertical gardens. CONTRIBUTED

Let there be light

Easy fixes for everyday household dilemmas

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

Dear Charles the butler: Having recently retired from 30 years in the hotel industry (sales), I truly believe in proper etiquette and good customer service.

Today I have two questions:
1. How would you recommend cleaning fabric lampshades?
2. Any ideas on how to prevent clothes from getting caught in fitted sheets in the dryer?
Wishing you continued success,
Mary

Dear Mary,

Thank you for your kind words! The first question is easy — cloth lampshades should be cleaned with a soft vacuum brush attachment.

Remember that dust attracts grease, so vacuum them often to keep them dust-free. I would say to clean them monthly.

Now, your second question is a great one — but unfortunately I have no answer for it.

I hope that some reader out there may have the answer and if so, please write in and tell me your thoughts so that I can learn and help everyone along the way.

Warm wishes,
Charles the butler

HAVE A QUESTION? SEND AN EMAIL TO ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

How do your properly clean a cloth lampshade? ISTOCK IMAGES

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Discover the Italian flavours that exist beyond spaghetti

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

This classic flavoured stew known as "hunter's stew" offers up chunky pieces of vegetables and duck that will become a favourite for all your guests.

Serve this dish with fettuccine pasta or mashed potatoes to soak up the rich tomato sauce.

Look for the whole duck in the freezer section of the grocery store and let it thaw completely in the refrigerator for about 24 hours before use.

Duck Cacciatore

This recipe serves four to six people. EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

- 1 King Cole whole duck, about 5 lbs/2.5 kg
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) each salt and pepper
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lb (500 g) button mushrooms, quartered
- 1 each red and green bell peppers, chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) dried oregano
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried basil
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) dry red wine
- 1 can (28 oz/796 mL) diced tomatoes

1. Trim excess skin and fat from duck and reserve for another use. Cut duck into 6 pieces and remove backbone for another use. Sprinkle salt and pepper all over duck pieces.

2. Heat large shallow Dutch oven over medium high heat and brown duck on both sides. Remove to plate. Remove all but 1 tbsp (15 mL) of the rendered fat in the saucepan.

3. In same pot, over medium high heat, cook onion, garlic, mushrooms, peppers, oregano and basil for about 15 minutes or until vegetables are beginning to brown. Pour in wine and stir vegetables to deglaze pan. Add tomatoes and bring to boil.

4. Return duck to pot. Reduce heat, and simmer covered for about 1 hour and 15 minutes or until duck is falling off the bone. Uncover and cook for 15 minutes to thicken the sauce slightly.

EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

Cookbook of the Week

Gourmet Italian: All-Time Favourite Recipes

It's no secret that Canadians are in love with Italian food. Over the years, Gourmet magazine helped shape tastes and expand repertoires from pizza and spaghetti to risotto and panna cotta.

For this sterling collection, the magazine's editors chose their best from the hundreds of Italian recipes published over the years. Most are perfect for easy entertaining and include: Calamari Salad, Quick Chicken Ragu, Lasagna Bolognese and luscious Tiramisu.

Each recipe comes with cooking times and kitchen tips. METRO

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Start season with a bang

Victoria Day. Here's how to celebrate the long weekend with a crowning success of a party

YLVA VAN BUUREN
For Metro

Summer is a time to kick back in the backyard for a party with some friends. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Saying happy birthday to a Queen is a royal reason to have your first party of the season and this year, Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee is the ideal theme, says Pia Wiesen, who owns Pia's in Orangeville, Ont., and loves to entertain.

"I would be sure that diamonds sparkled up the invite somehow."

Celebrating all things regal should continue as guests arrive, says Julie Albert, co-author with her sister Lisa Gnat, of Bite Me Too. You could have waving (dollar store) Union Jack flags in your outdoor planters, red, white and blue (Christmas) lights decorating the post and railing of your deck, "British" music playing such as The Clash singing London Calling, and the offer of a mixed cocktail such as a Big Ben!

"Something lighthearted always puts your guests at ease … automatically they're having a good time!"

Start the party outside, says Wiesen, and if the weather is on the cool side have a patio firepit or fire bowl that guests can congregate around. Add citronella candles or torches to keep the bugs away and spray-on sunscreen for those who want it, and everyone should stay comfortable.

If your party starts early enough, invite your guests to play no-skills-required lawn games such as Frisbee, badminton or croquet.

Keep it simple

"Pia Wiesen suggests a dinner that focuses on a selection of salads that you can prepare ahead. Serve with sliced, oven-roasted beef tenderloin, a basket of fresh bread, and a bottle of rosé."

A buffet-style dinner is the way to go — and it moves indoors easily if need be. Don't use your fancy dishes, says Albert. Instead, set the table ahead with a table cloth, sturdy plastic dishes, and red, white and blue napkins.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER

Wiesen suggests a dinner that focuses on a selection of salads that you can prepare ahead. Serve with sliced, oven-roasted beef tenderloin, a basket of fresh bread, and a bottle of rosé. Here are three salad recipes.

1 Salad Nicoise: On a platter, arrange greens, small cooked potatoes, chopped eggs, tomatoes cut into wedges, and olives. Top with sliced seared salmon or tuna. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

2 Seasonal Asparagus: Steam asparagus and put it on a platter with a small bowl of Hollandaise or mayonnaise mixed with chives. Arrange thinly sliced prosciutto on the side. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

3 Pia's Caprese Style Salad: Cut tomatoes and Buffalo mozzarella cheese into bite-sized wedges. Arrange them on a platter and top with sliced red onions, finely chopped garlic and fresh thyme. Cover and refrigerate. To serve, drizzle with olive oil and balsamic vinegar.

PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN ARTUSO
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A pool party is one way to keep things fun during the summer. JUPITERIMAGES/BRAND X PICTURES/THINKSTOCK

How to be cool with these pool party tips

Spontaneity. It will feel like the dock at a cottage ... but in your own backyard

YLVA VAN BUUREN
For Metro

Sometimes the best pool party happens spontaneously, says Meagan Richardson of the Pool and Hot Tub Council of Canada.

"When I wake up and it's a beautiful day," says Richardson, who has a large L-shaped pool in her backyard in Mississauga, Ont., "I send a text to all my friends and start planning food and beverages."

For your last-minute pool party, here's what you need to do.

1 Decorate if you have time, with Tiki torches, patio lanterns and inflatable palm trees.

2 Set up citronella candles to keep bugs away.

3 Prepare "beach" music on your iPod in advance ... think artists such as the Beach Boys, Jimmy Buffett and Bob Marley.

4 Stock up on lots of ice for drinks.

5 Give your guests a specific start time for the party — and also an end time if that's important to you.

6 Ask guests to bring a towel, but have extras around, too.

7 Suggest guests bring long-sleeved cover-ups.

8 If kids are coming, be sure to have a designated lifeguard or babysitter.

9 Identify a change area — a cabana in the backyard or a bathroom inside.

10 Be sure there is lots of shade available — trees, an overhead awning or umbrellas.

11 Put sunblock out for your guests.

12 Stock up on pool games such as a water volleyball set.

13 Set up a buffet table and keep it filled with snacks such as tortilla chips and salsa, pita and hummus and even chilled gazpacho and bread.

14 Set out plastic plates and glasses for around the pool — no glass allowed.

15 Remind everyone to be responsible if they are drinking alcohol.

16 Keep a pitcher of cold water on the buffet table along with other non-alcoholic choices.

17 Keep lunch or dinner casual — burgers, sausages or hotdogs on the barbecue. Add a couple of easy summer salads ... everyone will love it.

18 Put a few garbage receptacles out.

19 Have several side tables for drinks and food.

20 Alert the neighbours about your pool party — better yet, invite them.

Pool rules

Pool & Hot Tub Council of Canada provides these guidelines to help make backyard swimming pools as safe as possible.

- Adult supervision is mandatory when children are swimming.
- Encourage swimming lessons and first aid instruction for all family members.
- Keep pool chemicals in a locked area away from children and pets.
- Encourage walking — no running — around the poolside.
- Always swim with a buddy.
- Be responsible when alcohol is on the menu.
- Post "no diving" signs if you have an above-ground pool and in the shallow end of in-ground pools.
- Keep rescue equipment (pole, rope) and a first aid kit nearby.
- Post safety rules.

Safety is key with fireworks

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

On the cusp of Canada's first long weekend of the summer season, many people are getting their summer traditions ready for "May Two-Four" or the May long weekend — think beer, barbecues, camping and, of course, fireworks for the annual celebration of Queen Victoria's Birthday.

Marking the long weekend, which is celebrated the Monday before May 24, there are a number of events across the country in which to enjoy.

However, if you would rather skip the crowds and launch fireworks at home with family and friends, remember safety is key when lighting fireworks, says Sean Morris, president of Niagara Falls, Ont.-based Firemaster Productions and vice-president of the Canadian Fireworks Association.

"First, always follow the manufacturer's instructions that come with the fireworks," says Morris.

"Also, always wear safety glasses and have a good-sized pail of water beside you."

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) also suggests selecting a site that's fairly open and free of obstruction for fireworks, not allow children to shoot off fireworks, launching fireworks from a pail or box that is half-filled with sand or earth, and keep spectators at least 20 metres away.

NRCan also notes that if fireworks have misfired, don't attempt to relight them — instead, wait half an hour and then put them in a bucket of water to cool off.

Family packs of fireworks are the most popular for at-home fireworks enthusiasts.

"These often have tube-type fireworks, so the big ones that break in the sky. The standard roman candle, and a 'barrage,' which is a pack of roman candles together."

A popular firework that has taken over the market for the last seven to eight years is a "cake," says Morris.

"It's a multi-shot device that has anywhere from 15 to 100 shots in it."

STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

Recipe. Smoky Spanish Style Steak Marinade

Directions

1. Measure out all dry ingredients and place into a medium sized bowl.
2. Using a chef's knife, chop garlic until minced fine. Add garlic to dry ingredients.
3. Juice the lemon into bowl.
4. Pick thyme off stems, chop roughly.
5. To finish marinade drizzle olive oil into dry ingredients while combing with a whisk.
6. Once marinade is done place meat into a bowl and coat the meat generously. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 2 days. Serves two.

RECIPE COURTESY OF CHEF ROB ROSSI, BIC™ FLAMEDISK® SPOKESPERSON.

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp sweet smoked paprika
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp ground black pepper
- ½ tsp ground cumin
- 1 tbsp kosher salt
- 1 tbsp fresh thyme
- 1 ounce olive oil
- ½ lemon, juiced

A COMMUTER'S GUIDE TO LAUNDRY STAIN REMOVAL
Those tough commuting stains don't stand a chance with these handy stain-removal tips.

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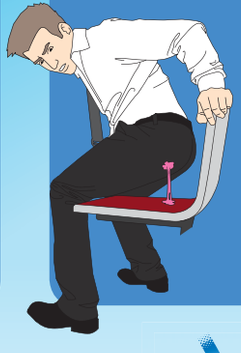
AT HOME: Apply Clorox2® Laundry Stain Remover Spray directly on the stain. Let stand for 5 – 10 minutes then wash immediately with your favourite detergent.



GUM. UGH.

The good news – you got a seat on the subway! The bad news? You just sat on some gum. Gross.

ON THE GO: Rub the gummy area with ice and carefully scrape away any excess gum as soon as possible.

AT HOME: Before washing, apply Clorox2® Stain Fighter & Colour Booster liquid formula directly into stain. Wash immediately.

NOT-SO-MELLOW YELLOW.

It's 30° outside – but it feels like 100° on the bus. You can almost sense the big yellow stain forming around your armpits.

ON THE GO: Okay, it's kinda hard to remove armpit stains on the go. Your best bet? Keep your arms down until you get home!

AT HOME: Pretreat with Clorox2® Laundry Stain Remover Spray. Wash with your favourite detergent along with one Clorox 2® Stain Fighter and Colour Booster concentrated pack.

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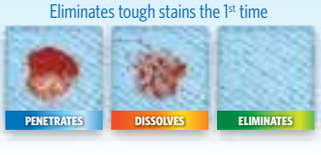

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SPORTS

NFL

Break-in comes after Seau's death

Junior Seau's home garage was burglarized days after the former NFL star's suicide, police said Wednesday.

The burglary occurred on May 7 police said. A $500 bicycle belonging to a friend of Seau's was stolen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Garnett leads way for Celtics in Game 3

Kevin Garnett scored 27 points, grabbed 13 rebounds, and used a dominant second quarter to help the Boston Celtics beat the Philadelphia 76ers 107-91 on Wednesday to take a 2-1 lead in their second-round series.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett celebrate in Philadelphia.
DREW HALLOWELL/GETTY IMAGES PRESS

Cycling

Ferrari floors it in Giro Stage 11

Roberto Ferrari sprinted to his first Grand Tour stage win in the 255-kilometre 11th leg of the Giro d'Italia Wednesday, while Joaquin Rodriguez kept top spot.

Victoria's Ryder Hesjedal was 17 seconds back of the lead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

"It was a long journey, it was a painful journey."

Larry Bird, who was voted NBA Executive of the Year Wednesday. He is the first person to be named the NBA's top executive, coach and MVP. Bird's Indiana Pacers finished third in the Eastern Conference at 42-24 and had struggled since a brawl in Detroit in 2004.

Devils crash through for victory in hostile NYC

NHL. New Jersey sends Rangers to another Game 2 loss to even East finals at a game apiece

Game 2

3	2
Devils	Rangers

David Clarkson's goal 2:31 into the third period snapped a tie and lifted the New Jersey Devils to a 3-2 win over the New York Rangers that evened the Eastern Conference finals at one game apiece on Wednesday night.

Clarkson built off the momentum created by Ryan Carter's goal late in the second period that tied the game, 2-2. Ilya Kovalchuk had given the Devils a 1-0 lead with a power-play goal in the first. Defenceman Bryce Salvador added two assists, and Martin Brodeur stopped 23 saves for the win.

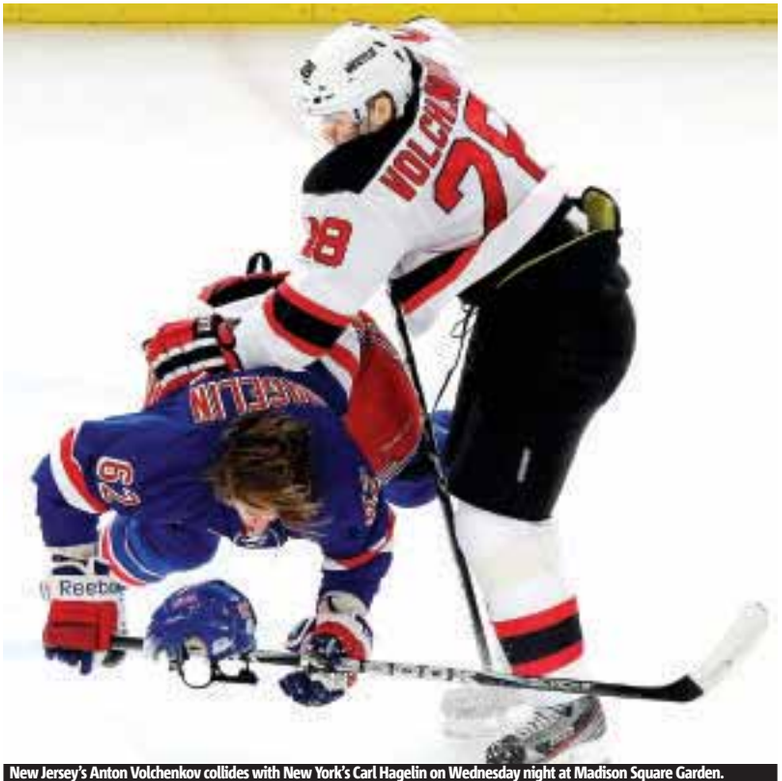
"We had to keep going to the net, and I think we were doing some good things," Clarkson said. "We've been playing some good hockey and we've got to continue to do it. That is a big win for us."

Marc Staal and Chris Kreider scored in the second for the Rangers, who lost their third straight Game 2 after winning the series opener. Top-seeded New York, which had 24 saves by Henrik Lundqvist, hasn't had a two-game lead at any point in these playoffs.

New Jersey got even at 2-2 when Salvador wound up for a shot at the blue-line and fired a drive that Carter — with his back to the net — brilliantly deflected past Lundqvist with 1:51 left in the second. Marian Gaborik stood up straight in front of Salvador, but didn't drop down as many of his teammates have to try to block the shot. For that, he was pinned to the bench by coach John Tortorella, even through New York's power play in the third.

Gaborik returned to the ice with 8:40 remaining.

The Devils kept the pressure on the Rangers at the start of the third and wiped out the good work New York displayed in the second. After spending much of the first penned in their own end, the Rangers rebounded to erase their early deficit on goals from Staal and Kreider.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



New Jersey's Anton Volchenkov collides with New York's Carl Hagelin on Wednesday night at Madison Square Garden.
FRANK FRANKLIN II/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA playoffs

"It's what the playoffs are all about. At the end of the day, you've got to try to win on somebody else's floor."

LeBron James, whose Miami Heat head to Indiana for Game 3 Thursday night with the second-round series tied 1-1. The Pacers won Game 2 in Miami 78-75 on Tuesday night to take home-court advantage away from the Heat.

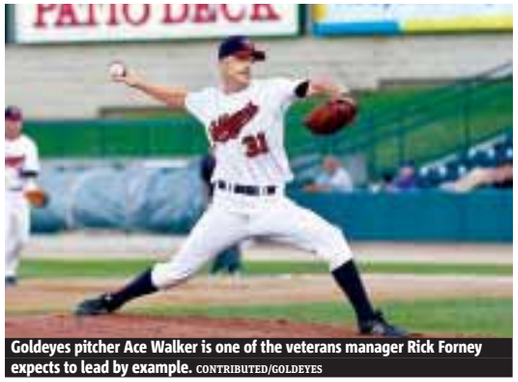
"Our goal is not to come in here and try to put up a good fight or whatever. We're trying to win the series. We're competing to win the series."

Pacers forward David West

Mobile news

Lance Armstrong says "the 13-year question" of whether he used performance-enhancing drugs is over. Armstrong, who has never been caught doping, says he's finished talking about the allegations that have dogged his seven Tour de France titles. Scan the code for the story.

Goldeyes in need of road-warrior mentality



Goldeyes pitcher Ace Walker is one of the veterans manager Rick Forney expects to lead by example. CONTRIBUTED/GOLDEYES

The Winnipeg Goldeyes start the 2012 season with a road trip spanning thousands of kilometres, and manager Rick Forney says it is imperative the team builds chemistry and gets a few quick wins to set the tone for the season.

"These guys have no choice but to get to know each other but it's going great so far, said Forney. "We have to get out of the gate fast so we don't end up playing catch up."

Forney says the veterans will be a big part of building chemistry early in the season.

Quoted

"This team just needs to play consistent ... In some ways I hope we stay under the radar and peak at the end."

Ace Walker, Goldeyes pitcher.

"We have good veterans who will lead by example. These guys have to show the guys how we do things and what is expected. The vets have good experience so I expect them to lead."

Pitcher Ace Walker, who is back for his fifth year with the Goldeyes, says the team's elder statesmen will keep the younger guys in check.

"It's been a lot less rowdy than some years which is a good thing," said Walker.

"We have the type of veterans on this team that will keep the young guys in line."

The Goldeyes will play their first nine regular season games on the road before returning to Winnipeg for their home opener against the Amarillo Sox on May 29.
DAVE BAXTER/FOR METRO

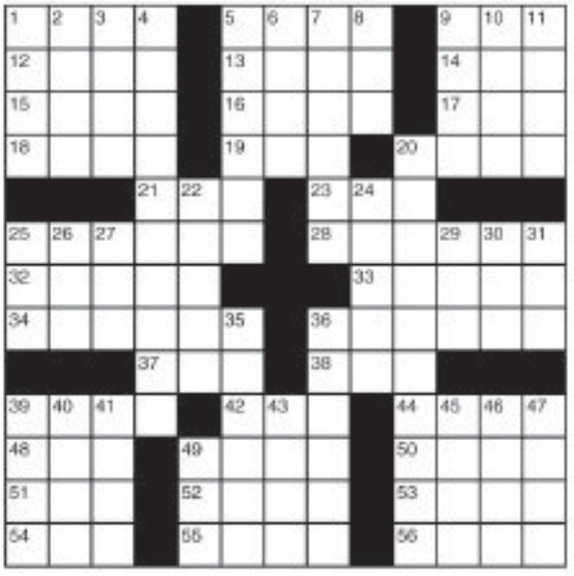
Crossword

Across

1 Dance lesson
5 "Born Free" lioness
9 Interlaken interjection
12 Heart of the matter
13 Actor Neeson
14 Pi follower
15 Domini lead-in
16 Sore
17 Cardplayer's call
18 Heart of the matter
19 Shell-game item
20 Punch
21 CIA forerunner
23 "Go, team!"
25 Carol opener
28 Island greetings
32 Virile
33 Bay of Biscay feeder
34 Schulz pooch
36 Obtained
37 Sugar suffix
38 Lamb's dam
39 Leave in a hurry
42 Possess
44 Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name
48 Wish undone
49 Send out
50 Desire
51 Lemieux milieu
52 Count counterpart
53 Ashen
54 Replies of surprise
55 Dandling locale
56 Kane's Rosebud

Down

1 Unwanted email
2 Prong
3 Sicilian spouter
4 Session with the camera
5 Go by
6 Grown-up nits
7 Vast dry expanse
8 "Judging —"
9 Jason's ship
10 Stylish
11 Goose's noise
20 Westerns
22 Comes to a halt
24 Say it's OK
25 Mornings (Abbr.)
26 Newsman emeritus Rather
27 Author Umberto
29 Smack
30 Exist
31 D.C. address
35 Naval petty officer
36 Kind
39 Enthusiastic vigor
40 "That hurts!"
41 Sediment
43 Telegram
45 Evangelist Roberts
46 Look lecherously
47 Requirement
49 Comic-strip scream



Sudoku

	5		8		9		7	
	7	8	4		2	1	6	
2			5		4			9
		9	3		6	5		
3			9		7			1
	9	1	6		8	4	2	
	4		1		3		5	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	8	9	1	5	2	4	6	7
4	6	1	3	8	7	2	9	5
5	2	7	9	6	4	8	1	3
8	9	3	6	2	5	1	7	4
7	5	4	8	1	3	6	2	9
6	1	2	4	7	9	5	3	8
2	4	5	7	9	1	3	8	6
1	7	8	5	3	6	9	4	2
9	3	6	2	4	8	7	5	1

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

LJ BCAS BATVV DCCFZSB FTQQU TQCMON SVSFYQLFTV JLYYLOHB, UCM ALHZY BTU Y ZTY DMHB VMH DVMHB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN ORDER TO INVENT AN INNOVATIVE MOTOR, I IMAGINE YOU'D NEED GREAT ENGINE-UITY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals T

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Weather

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: 29° MIN: 13°	MAX: 31° MIN: 17°	MAX: 22° MIN: 16°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6 AM**

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. If something sounds too good to be true then it most likely is, so don't be fooled.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You may be having doubts about a friendship or relationship that has caused you quite a bit of trouble of late, but don't give up on it yet.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Think carefully before you pursue what you think is your dream – because it could turn into a nightmare if you get it wrong.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. It's time to get over the past. It's the future that matters.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Strive to keep things in perspective today, especially where affairs of the heart are concerned.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Be confident enough to follow your own path through life, even if it is a path many people might disapprove of.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You are who you are and no one has the right to demand that you be any different.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Someone you meet today will make an impression on you and no doubt your friendship will blossom.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. If someone you love seems determined to make a silly mistake then you might as well let them get on with it.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Even if you are in the mood to make changes it will pay you to wait a few days.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. You have nothing to prove, not to other people nor to yourself, so slow down and give your overworked body and mind time to recover.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Consult someone you trust before making that big move you have been thinking about. It could be they can see a potential pitfall that you have missed.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"Gimme an 'A'! Gimme another 'A'!"
Frank

ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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160 SMITH

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